

NEWS @ COX

ACAP/Cox School Awards First Scholarship to Incoming MSA Student



*Ashlee Jones,
incoming Cox
MSA student
&
Scholarship
Winner*

Incoming Master of Science in Accounting student Ashlee Jones is the first recipient of the newly announced Nora O'Garro/Odell Brown Scholarship for alumni of the SMU Accounting Career Awareness Program (ACAP). SMU Cox Master of Science in Accounting Director Greg Sommers and Cox Diversity Initiatives Director Steve Denson, along with the executive board members of ACAP, announced the creation of the Nora O'Garro/Odell Brown Scholarship Program last week, allowing for any alumnus of SMU ACAP to receive a \$10,000 scholarship upon their admission to the Cox Master of Science in Accounting Program.

June 26, 2020

SMU's Announcement of Scholarship

Just as the primary objective of ACAP is “to increase the understanding of accounting and business career opportunities among high school students from underrepresented ethnic groups.” Within Cox, we started a conversation about how to increase understanding of undergraduate and graduate opportunities for the ACAP students. These conversations started in February and they have resulted in two initiatives.

The first is that ACAP students will have a fee waiver for undergraduate applications to SMU. Our hope is that this will encourage ACAP's alumni to broaden the places they apply to and allow them to arrive at a better understanding of the opportunities and costs of various college options including SMU.

The second is that we want ACAP students to investigate options for graduate school, specifically a Master's in Accounting, after their undergraduate degrees are completed. To support the ACAP program and to create an interest in pursuit of graduate education amongst ACAP alumni, beginning with this year's ACAP participants, any student who joins our MSA Program after their undergraduate will be awarded an additional scholarship above normal merit-based levels. The ACAP alumni will receive a **“Nora O’Garro / Odell Brown / ACAP Scholarship”** in the amount of \$10,000 to help make it possible to join the Master of Science in Accounting program at SMU Cox.

Personally, I love this program and am so excited to find a way for us to further support the efforts of this great program.

Dr. Greg Sommers, CPA, SMU